



Robert Bentley
GOVERNOR

ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

AERONAUTICS BUREAU
1409 COLISEUM BOULEVARD
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36110
PHONE (334) 242-6820
FAX (334) 353-6540



John R. Cooper
TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

May 9, 2011

The Honorable Mose Jones, Jr.
Chairman, Lawrence County Commission
12001 Alabama Hwy 157
Moulton, Alabama 35650

Subject: Annual Inspection Report
Lawrence County Airport

Dear Mr. Jones:

An inspection of the Lawrence County Airport was conducted by personnel of the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau on May 4, 2011. The purpose of the inspection was to update the information currently on file regarding the airport and to ascertain compliance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Department of Transportation governing licensed public-use airports within the State of Alabama.

Attached you will find a copy of the Annual Inspection Report for Lawrence County Airport. As noted in the report, the airport does not meet all the requirements for the issuance of an operating license. The operating license for the airport is being withheld pending correction of the licensing violations noted in this report. The Code of Alabama 23-1-375 prohibits the operation of an airport for which a license has not been issued.

Please contact Aeronautics Bureau at (334) 242-6820 when the required corrective action has been completed or if you should have any questions concerning the inspection or corrective actions.

Sincerely,

John C. Eagerton IV, D.P.A.
Chief, Aeronautics Bureau

cc: Rans Black, FAA/ADO
Ryan Reed, Garver Engineers

ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT

MAY 4, 2011



LAWRENCE COUNTY MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
COURTLAND, ALABAMA

**ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT
LAWRENCE COUNTY AIRPORT
COURTLAND, ALABAMA**

May 4, 2011

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	PAGE 1
INSPECTION METHODOLOGY.....	PAGE 1
LICENSE STATUS.....	PAGE 2
APPROACH / DEPARTURE PATHS.....	PAGE 2
PRIMARY SURFACE.....	PAGE 5
RUNWAY SAFETY AREA.....	PAGE 5
AIRPORT MARKINGS.....	PAGE 7
WIND DIRECTION INDICATOR.....	PAGE 9
AIRPORT LIGHTING.....	PAGE 10
RUNWAY, TAXIWAY AND APRON CONDITIONS.....	PAGE 11
FUELING AREA REQUIREMENTS.....	PAGE 13
PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.....	PAGE 14
STORM DAMAGE.....	PAGE 14
SUMMARY.....	PAGE 15
APPENDIX 1.....	PAGE 16

Annual Inspection Report Lawrence County Airport Courtland, Alabama

May 4, 2011

Introduction

Code of Alabama 23-1-357(c). The department may perform such acts, issue and amend such orders and make, promulgate, or amend general or special rules, regulations, and procedures and establish minimum standards, consistent with the provisions of this article as it shall deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this article and to perform its duties hereunder, all commensurate with and for the purpose of protecting and insuring the general public interest, health, welfare, and safety. (Act 2000-220, 10.)

In accordance with the provisions of the Code of Alabama 23-1-357(c) an inspection of the Lawrence County Airport was conducted by Mr. Robert K. Heartsill of the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau on May 4, 2011.

The corrective actions that may be prescribed in this inspection report do not relieve the airport owner from compliance with any other Federal, State or local laws, ordinances or regulations that may be applicable. It is the responsibility of the airport owner to be aware of and obey all Federal, State or local laws, ordinances or regulations that may have a bearing on the corrective actions that may be specified in this report.

The federal airport design standards referred to in this report were taken from the Lawrence County Municipal Airport Layout Plan (ALP) prepared by Garver Engineers in August of 2006. The airport owner should refer to the ALP for the dimensions of the FAA airport design standards used to identify violations to these standards.

Inspection Methodology

The inspection of the required State Approach/Departure Path and Federal Runway Protection Zones was accomplished by the use of approved engineering methods and equipment. The angles, locations and heights of trees or other objects within these areas were derived by the use of a Theodolite and electronic distance measuring device.

All other areas of the inspection were conducted visually and photographed for reference purposes.

Annual Inspection Report Lawrence County Airport Courtland, Alabama

May 4, 2011

License Status

Code of Alabama 23-1-375(a). ...a person or municipality may not operate an airport, restricted landing area, or other air navigation facility without a license issued by the department.

Based upon the findings of the inspection conducted on May 4, 2011 it was determined that the Lawrence County Airport does not meet the requirements for the issuance of an operating license in the Public Use category. The operating license for the facility is being withheld pending correction of a license violation noted in Section 3 of this report.

The inspection was conducted on the airport under the provisions of the Administrative Code for the following areas:

1. Approach and Departure Paths (See Appendix 1) Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(1)

State Licensing Standards

- ➔ For all hard surface runways the approach and departure path begins 200 feet from the runway end (runway threshold).
- ➔ The approach and departure path for all runways is centered along the extended runway centerline and extends for 1000 feet.
- ➔ The approach and departure path for all runways slopes up at a ratio of 20:1.
- ➔ All penetrations of the approach and departure paths, whether natural or manmade, constitute an obstruction to navigation and must be removed.
- ➔ The land beneath the approach and departure path must be controlled by the airport owner. This is accomplished by ownership of the property in fee simple or by written perpetual agreement with the owner of the land.

Inspection Results

- ➔ Runway 13/31 meets all State licensing requirements.
- ➔ Runway 17/35 meets all State licensing requirements.

**Annual Inspection Report
Lawrence County Airport
Courtland, Alabama**

May 4, 2011

Photo 1



Approach to Runway 17

Photo 2



Approach to Runway 35

**Annual Inspection Report
Lawrence County Airport
Courtland, Alabama**

May 4, 2011

Photo 3



Approach to Runway 13

Photo 4



Approach to Runway 31

Annual Inspection Report Lawrence County Airport Courtland, Alabama

May 4, 2011

2. Primary Surface Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(2)

State Licensing Standards

- Primary Surface (See Appendix 1): The primary surface is 250 feet wide, centered on the runway centerline and extends 200 feet past the end of the marked runway. The primary surface is required to be free of all obstructions, manmade or natural. The only allowable objects are runway lights, guidance signs, or navigation equipment that by function is required to be within the primary surface boundaries.

Inspection Results

- The Primary Surface was inspected on both runways and found to be in compliance with licensing requirements.

3. Runway Safety Area Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(3)

State Licensing Standards

- Runway Safety Area (See Appendix 1): All runways are required to maintain an obstruction free area adjacent to each runway. This area is 120 feet wide, centered on the runway centerline, and extends for a distance of 200 feet past the runway end. The area must be compacted and graded smooth with no ruts, humps, depressions or other potentially hazardous surface variations. The slope along the longitudinal centerline shall not exceed a rise or fall of three percent in elevation relative to the runway end elevation. The lip from the top of the pavement to the grade adjacent to the runway should not exceed 3 inches.

Inspection Results

- The Runway Safety Area of Runway 17, 13 and 31 were found to meet licensing requirements.

Violation

- The drop along the runway end of Runway 35 was found to be as much as 6 inches.

Annual Inspection Report Lawrence County Airport Courtland, Alabama

May 4, 2011

Required Action

- The area adjacent to the runway end must be filled, compacted and graded to a maximum of a three inch drop to meet the minimum licensing requirements.

Photo 5



Tape showing 5/10's of a foot drop adjacent to runway end of Runway 35

Photo 6



Drop along the edge of Runway 35

Annual Inspection Report Lawrence County Airport Courtland, Alabama

May 4, 2011

4. Airport Markings Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(4)

State Licensing Standards

- Airport Markings: All runways are required to be marked in a manner identifying the boundaries of the landing areas. The runway markings must be painted white and be maintained in a legible condition.

Inspection Results

- The markings of both runways are in *Good* condition.

Photo 7



Runway 13 nonprecision markings

**Annual Inspection Report
Lawrence County Airport
Courtland, Alabama**

May 4, 2011

Photo 8



Runway 17 basic markings

Photo 9



Runway 31 nonprecision markings

Annual Inspection Report Lawrence County Airport Courtland, Alabama

May 4, 2011

Photo 10



Runway Identifier markings of Runway 35

5. Wind Direction Indicator Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(5)

State Licensing Standards

- Wind Direction Indicators: All airports are required to have an operational wind direction indicator. It must be installed in a highly visible area and free from obstructions to ensure true wind direction and velocity. Night operations require the indicator be lighted.

Inspection Results

- The wind direction indicator was inspected and found to be operational.

Annual Inspection Report Lawrence County Airport Courtland, Alabama

May 4, 2011

Photo 11



Windsock assembly

6. Airport Lighting Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(6)

State Licensing Standards

- Airport Lighting: Runway lights and a lighted wind direction indicator are required for night operations. All runway, threshold, and taxiway lighting shall be maintained in operational condition and shall not be obscured by natural growth such as grass and/or weeds. An airport rotating beacon is suggested.

Inspection Results

- The airport lighting system of Runway 13/31 was inspected and found to meet all requirements.
- Runway 17/35 is not lighted.

Maintenance

- One REIL is missing on each end of Runway 13/31.

Required Action

- Replace the 2 missing units.

Annual Inspection Report Lawrence County Airport Courtland, Alabama

May 4, 2011

Photo 12



Concrete base and wiring of missing REIL on Runway 17

7. Runway, Taxiway and Apron Conditions Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(7)

State Licensing Standards

- ➔ Runway, Taxiway and Apron Conditions: All airport pavement surfaces associated with aircraft operations must be kept smooth and free of any defect or obstruction that could damage an aircraft. The lip of the airport pavement surfaces must not exceed three (3) inches in elevation from the top of the pavement to the shoulder. The drop should only be enough to allow sufficient drainage and not pose a control problem for aircraft exiting the runway. The aircraft parking apron is for the operation and parking of aircraft only and should be smooth and free of obstructions or defects that could cause damage to aircraft during operations.

Inspection Results

- ➔ The runway conditions of both runways are in compliance with State licensing requirements.

Maintenance

- ➔ There is no joint fill material between the slabs of Runway 17/35.

Annual Inspection Report Lawrence County Airport Courtland, Alabama

May 4, 2011

Required Action

- The lack of the joint filler will result in damage to the concrete slabs that will cost more to repair in the future than a project to replace joint filler at this time. This condition should be discussed with the airport's consultant to determine if the cost of the required maintenance on a secondary runway is of more benefit to the airport than the maintenance of the primary runway, or if the cost of maintaining both runways is within acceptable limits.

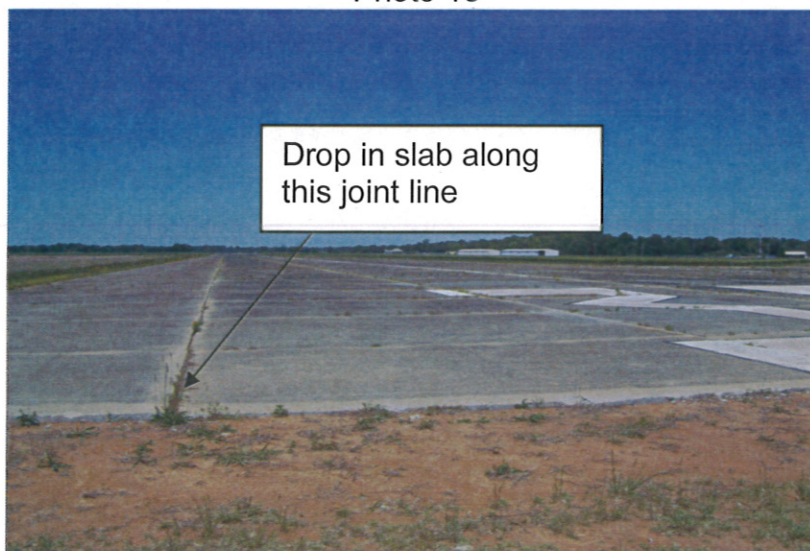
Maintenance

- A section of the concrete slabs at the threshold of Runway 35 has dropped and created a drop along the intersection of the adjacent slabs. This drop also created a long section between the slabs that has no joint filler and uneven section of runway.

Required Action

- This item should be discussed with the airport consultant. This condition could quickly become a safety issue as directional control of an aircraft could be affected.
- Relocation of this runway end is an option in lieu of major construction.

Photo 13



Concrete slab condition

Annual Inspection Report Lawrence County Airport Courtland, Alabama

May 4, 2011

Photo 14



Joint line along the shift in the slab

8. Fueling Area Requirements Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(8)

State Licensing Standards

- Signs should be posted prohibiting open flames or smoking in fueling areas. The fueling facility must be labeled indicating the type fuel being dispensed.
- Grounding cables must be available.
- A fire extinguisher approved for the purpose of extinguishing petroleum product fires available during all fueling operations.
- Serviceable hoses and connections that would preclude a rupture or leaking of fuel.

Inspection Results

- The fueling area meets the requirements established by the Alabama Department of Transportation. However, the State of Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries may have additional requirements for fueling systems that were not considered during this inspection.
- The self serve pump is out of operation. Fueling is being accomplished by use of trucks.

Annual Inspection Report Lawrence County Airport Courtland, Alabama

May 4, 2011

9. Administrative Code 450-9-1-.16 Prohibited Activities

- ➔ Prohibited Activities: The use of any portion of the aircraft operations area, or airport property within the boundaries of the imaginary surfaces of a licensed airport for any purpose other than the operation of aircraft shall be deemed a non-aeronautical activity and is prohibited

Inspection Results

- ➔ No prohibited activities were observed during this inspection.

10. Storm damage

- ➔ The recent storms left debris across the airport and adjacent land.
- ➔ Two sections of the hangars had doors blown off.
- ➔ The airport manager cleaned the debris from the runways, taxiways and apron.

Photo 15



Debris removed from the airport operational areas

Annual Inspection Report Lawrence County Airport Courtland, Alabama

May 4, 2011

Photo 16



Hangar doors missing on both sides of hangar due to storm

Summary

Inspection Area	Violation/Maintenance	Corrective Action
Runway Safety Area	Violation Runway 35 threshold – The drop from the runway end to the ground is in excess of 3 inches.	Fill, compact and grade the area adjacent to the runway end for the full width.
Airport Lighting	Maintenance – Missing REIL units	Replace the missing units
Runway, Taxiway and Apron Conditions	1. Maintenance – No joint filler between slabs of Runway 17/35. 2. Slab near the end of Runway 35 has dropped and is tilted.	Discuss conditions of both runway maintenance items with the airport consultant.

Please contact the Aeronautics Bureau of the Alabama Department of Transportation at (334) 242-6820 with questions concerning the Annual Inspection Report.

Annual Inspection Report Lawrence County Airport Courtland, Alabama

May 4, 2011

Approach and Departure Path Dimensions			
Inner Width	Outer Width	Length	Acreage
250 Feet	450 Feet	1,000 Feet	8.04 Acres
Primary Surface Dimensions			
250 Feet Wide Centered Along Runway Centerline			
Extending 200 Feet Past the Runway End			
Runway Safety Area Dimensions			
120 Feet Wide Centered Along Runway Centerline			
Extending 200 Feet Past the Runway End			

